

By: Bonnen, Goldman, et al.

H.B. No. 574

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 574:

By: Clardy

C.S.H.B. No. 574

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the elements of the criminal offense of election fraud;
3 increasing criminal penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Sections 276.013(a) and (b), Election Code, are
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or
8 intentionally makes any effort to:

9 (1) influence the independent exercise of the vote of
10 another in the presence of the ballot or during the voting process;

11 (2) cause a voter to become registered, a ballot to be
12 obtained, or a vote to be cast under false pretenses; ~~or~~

13 (3) count invalid votes or alter a report to include
14 invalid votes;

15 (4) fail to count valid votes or alter a report to
16 exclude valid votes; or

17 (5) [~~3~~] cause any intentionally misleading
18 statement, representation, or information to be provided:

19 (A) to an election official; or

20 (B) on an application for ballot by mail, carrier
21 envelope, or any other official election-related form or document.

22 (b) An offense under this section is a felony of the second
23 degree [~~Class A misdemeanor~~].

24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.